Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

where curious minds gather...

Spring 2014
Come for the courses. Stay for the people
That’s what happens at Osher. People come for the intellectual stimulation and challenge, and discover along the way that there are friendships to be made and experiences to be shared.
We offer 40–50 or more courses each term, from one-session courses for those who like big ideas in small packages to courses that meet weekly for five-week to ten-week sessions. Courses are suggested and led by members.

Spring Course Listings begin on page 6

Beyond courses: from lectures to expeditions to dances to art exhibitions...
Discover what else is included in your annual Osher membership:

Pfaudler Enrichment Series
This speakers program is held every Thursday at noon, and features guest lecturers. Bring your lunch!

Summer Seminars & Intersessions
Discovery/Adventure learning experiences are capped by expeditions to complementary destinations during our Summer Seminars. Intersessions are between-session expeditions to local museums and cultural attractions.

Social Activities
Picnics, parties, holiday celebrations...there’s always something fun happening. Events and dates: page 5

Why do you belong at Osher?
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT is a membership-led organization that stimulates minds and forges friendships among people 50 and older who live in Greater Rochester.
Our days are filled with classes, discussions, talks, social events, and travel – but never exams. Offerings span a wide range of topics, including the arts, literature, sciences, history, and government. Osher. There are a million-and-one reasons why curious minds gather. Discover yours!

Come for the courses. Stay for the people
Osher members come in all shapes and sizes, and from all walks of life. You don’t need to be an RIT alum, have an MBA, or have an MD after your name. You don’t even have to have prior college experience! You only need to love learning...and to be 50 or older.

Because you have gifts of experience to share
Because you would have loved school if there had been no exams

Because your TV only talks at you, not with you

Nita Genova  Chair 2013 – 2015

Marie Levin  Chair 2011 – 2013

Peter Luce  Chair 2007 – 2009

Ruth Lebowitz
Because you would have loved school if there had been no exams

Peter Luce
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Chair 2007 – 2009

Marie Levin
Chair 2011 – 2013

Nita Genova
Chair 2013 – 2015

Ruth Lebowitz
Travel, Tours, Field Trips
Member-organized and led, generally within a day’s travel time. We’ve enjoyed Hudson River Valley and Val Kill, the Toronto Museum to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Gettysburg battlefield (additional fees cover actual travel expenses).

Osher Gallery
Works of art by members are displayed on a rotating basis at The Athenaeum Building. Enjoy – or exhibit your own work.

And then there are the perks of a full membership...

RIT Student Identification Card. A pass to RIT campus facilities, your ID card entitles you to student admission rates for campus events; borrowing privileges at the RIT Library; student discounts at the Campus Bookstore; access to campus fitness facilities at a reduced rate and RIT classes at the College of Liberal Arts (see below).

Audiology Services
State-of-the-art hearing evaluation and hearing aid service and purchase are available at significant savings through RIT’s National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID).

Osher Library
Books are contributed and maintained by members; borrow books on an extended-time basis. No late fees!

Take Courses ... On Campus!
Each semester the RIT College of Liberal Arts offers courses to our members which enrich the range of our course offerings. The level of your participation in On Campus courses is up to you. You can ask questions, participate in class discussion, complete writing assignments and even take exams, if you want to!

The range of topics includes literature, fine arts, history, philosophy, foreign languages, anthropology, psychology, women & gender studies, writing, and more.

Prerequisites for Osher member participation in On Campus courses include:
• Full Osher membership
• An RIT identification card
• A valid RIT parking pass

A shuttle bus is available from the nearby Racquet Club parking lot to the campus.

Additional information is available in the Osher Members Benefits Guide and the On Campus course registration form is available in the Osher office.
GET READY... GET SET... GO ONLINE!
REGISTRATION OPENS TUESDAY, 3/18 at 10 am!

Online Registration
Visit our website at osher.rit.edu and click on the flashing blue square in the center of the page

For a detailed overview of the online registration process, please visit osher.rit.edu/content/onlinereg.html

Register for Courses
In the login box, enter your username and password and click the Login button.

Click the term drop-down menu and select Spring.

Click the day drop-down menu and select the day you’re interested in, then click Search.

Click Register; tick the box next to your name, then click the Register button.

In the Schedule box, click the Complete Registration button.

Click the Continue button at the bottom of the page.

Your registration is now complete!

Please take a moment to click on My Account and enter your emergency contact info / indicate your interests and experiences. Doing this will help us better serve you in the future!

Retrieve Login Credentials: Existing Members
If you are a current member but have not previously registered online, you’ll need to get your system-assigned username and password before you can register. In the Login box, click Forgot Your Password?. Type your email address in the yellow field and click Submit. In a few minutes you’ll receive an email from Administrator (info@imperisoft.com) with your username and password (be sure to check your spam/junk folder if you don’t receive the message.) If you wish, you can change your username under My Account and your password under Change Password.

You can see the courses you are enrolled in at any time by logging in, clicking on My Account, then Account Registrations.

IMPORTANT: If your membership expires in the Spring and you are not paying online, make sure to get your payment to the office BEFORE TUESDAY, MARCH 18 to ensure that you will be able to register. Those members who renew in the spring can renew their memberships online beginning on FRIDAY, 3/14.

YOU MUST BE CURRENT WITH YOUR PAYMENT IN ORDER TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES.

Contact us
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT
The Athenaeum Building
50 Fairwood Drive, Suite 100
Rochester, New York 14623

Phone: (585) 292-8989
Email: osher.info@rit.edu
Visit us at osher.rit.edu
# Spring/Summer 2014

March 24 through April 4: spring break (no classes)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Intersession Event: Tour of RIT’s Golisano Institute for Sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Course leaders’ meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Intersession Event: Showing of the film “Gasland”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>First day, Spring Term (5 and 10 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues &amp; Wed</td>
<td>22 &amp; 23</td>
<td>New member orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Summer course proposals due</td>
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<tr>
<th>May</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>First 5-week term ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Second 5-week term begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Memorial Day, Osher closed</td>
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<tr>
<th>June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Spring Social Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Fall course proposals due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Spring Term ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Summer Registration (10 am)</td>
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Tuesday, June 17 through Friday, July 4: summer break (no classes)

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<th>July</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>First day, Summer Term (8 weeks)</td>
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<tr>
<th>August</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Last day, Summer Term</td>
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<tr>
<th>June, July, August:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer Seminar Series</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(four lectures followed by day tours)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intersession Activities</td>
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**Fall 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>First day, Fall Term (5 and 10 weeks)</td>
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## Spring 2014 Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Current Events.</strong> Con Sullivan</td>
<td><strong>Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, and More</strong> Beth Vanfossen</td>
<td><strong>Going to the Dogs:</strong> Nature of Canine Form and Function Malcolm O'Malley</td>
<td><strong>How to Listen to and Understand Great Music</strong> Eric Birken &amp; Victor Poleshuck</td>
<td><strong>The Adirondacks:</strong> New York's Great Wilderness Tim McDonnell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Mayan Engineering</strong> Jim Roddy &amp; Dick Jones</td>
<td><strong>French Conversation and Composition 1.</strong> Geoff Fitch</td>
<td><strong>Going With the Dogs:</strong> Nurture in the Selection and Developmental Training of Dogs Malcolm O'Malley</td>
<td><strong>The Lesser Knowns:</strong> 20th C. Artists in the Shadows Rose Welch</td>
<td><strong>Independence Day</strong> by Richard Ford (session I) Francia Roe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td><strong>The History of Modern Art, Part III.</strong> Lewis Neisner</td>
<td><strong>The Brothers Karamazov and Notes from Underground</strong> Roz Rubin</td>
<td><strong>The Singing Revolution:</strong> How Estonia Bloodlessly Broke from the Soviet Union Mike O'Neal, John Cedarleaf, Nancy Dubner, &amp; Kathy Bentley</td>
<td><strong>Nationalism, World War I, and the Peace to End All Peace</strong> Richard Mallory</td>
<td><strong>Spanish Conversation and Composition 2.</strong> Roz Rubin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td><em>CANCELED</em></td>
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<td><em>CANCELED</em></td>
<td><strong>You Be the Critic...</strong> a film discussion group Burt Freedman &amp; Bea Slizewski</td>
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### One-Session Courses

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td><strong>The Ascent of Man.</strong> Sp7 Kathy Hayes</td>
<td><strong>Irish Literature</strong> Jack Callaghan</td>
<td><strong>Contemporary Events</strong> June Clase</td>
<td><strong>Seminar in Medical Ethics</strong> Victor Poleshuck</td>
<td><strong>A History of Religion</strong> Jack Kowiak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>The Athenaeum Book Club.</strong> (this course meets twice) Mary Jones &amp; Janice Shapiro</td>
<td><strong>Flickstory:</strong> Hollywood Goes to War Bob Vukosic, Bob Getz, Jack Kowiak, Chuck Sparneck</td>
<td><strong>Issues of the Civil War</strong> Chuck Sparneck</td>
<td><strong>Bel Canto Opera</strong> Richard Mallory</td>
<td><strong>A History of Religion</strong> Jack Kowiak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Memoirs</strong> Mary Jones &amp; Janice Shapiro</td>
<td><strong>French Conversation and Composition 2.</strong> Roz Rubin</td>
<td><strong>Shakespeare's Coriolanus</strong> Harvey Granite</td>
<td><strong>Independence Day</strong> by Richard Ford (session II) Francia Roe</td>
<td><strong>HISTORY OF RELIGION</strong> Sp48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>German Expressionists</strong> Sp6 Gisela Balfour</td>
<td><strong>Shorter Fiction of Melville</strong> David Hill</td>
<td><strong>The Permanent Jihad</strong> Bob Getz</td>
<td><strong>Poetic Visions (session II)</strong> Sp45 Gary Lehmann</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
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### Pfaunder Enrichment Series

- **Bel Canto Opera** Richard Mallory
- **Crazy Brave: A Memoir** by Joy Harjo
- **A History of Jazz Guitar** Peter Luce & Al Mathias
- **Bel Canto Opera** Richard Mallory
- **Poetic Visions (session II)** Sp45 Gary Lehmann
- **Bel Canto Opera** Richard Mallory
- **Poetic Visions (session II)** Sp45 Gary Lehmann

### Color Key

- **first five-week session (4/7 – 5/9)**
- **second five-week session (5/12 – 6/16)**
**Monday**

**Spring 2014 Course Schedule**

**Current Events** ..............................................Sp1

This course is intended to encourage others to express their opinions on the issues of the day. It is also intended to expose the participants to other ideas. Discussion

**Con Sullivan** has led other courses, as well as this course, at Osher for several years.

- Monday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
- Ten Sessions: April 7 – June 16

**Mayan Engineering** .................................Sp2

Who were the Maya and where did they come from? Why did this “Stone Age” people have the concept and use of zero? Look at their civilization through the eyes of a civil engineer, instead of an archaeologist or anthropologist. This is a repeat of the fall course with about 50% added new material.

- Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading
- **Recommended Text:** *The Lost Secrets of Maya Technology*, by James O’Kon, PE • ISBN: 139781601632074 • Available for about $15

**Jim Roddy** has a background in science and engineering and has taught several courses at Osher. **Dick Jones** spent his career in information technology and business but maintains an interest in science, technology, and history.

- Monday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
- Ten Sessions: April 7 – June 16

**The History of Modern Art, Part III** ...............Sp3

[NEW CONTENT] This course will cover the history of modern art from about 1950 to the present. It will cover such movements as Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Op Art, Minimalism, Conceptual Art, and others. The course will also visit some of the important artists and paintings of each movement. For more information, please visit: https://sites.google.com/site/modernart1900s/

- Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading
- **Recommended Text:** *What are You Looking At? The Surprising, Shocking and Sometimes Strange Story of 150 Years of Modern Art*, by Will Gompertz • © 2012 • Available at Amazon from $17

Since 2007, **Lewis Neisner** has led a wide variety of courses at Osher. He has been interested in modern art ever since taking an art appreciation course in college.

- Monday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
- Five Sessions: April 7 – May 5

**Athenaeum Book Club** ..........................Sp4

The Athenaeum Book Club is a dedicated group of readers who select six books for discussion each year. This spring we will meet twice: on April 7th we will discuss *The Yellow Birds* by Kevin Powers and on May 19th our book will be *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich. For more information on these works, please see our website at: https://sites.google.com/site/theathenaeumbookclub1/

- New members are always welcome! Class Limit 35
- Discussion, Peer Group Seminar, Reading
- **Required Texts:** *The Yellow Birds*, by Kevin Powers • Available at Amazon (paperback) and at Monroe County Library System (25 copies, 5 large print, 6 CDs)
- *The Round House*, by Louise Erdrich • Available at Amazon (paperback) and at Monroe County Library System (48 copies, 13 large print, 5 CDs)

**Mary Jones** is a lifelong book lover with special interests in literary fiction and biography. Two of **Janice Shapiro**’s favorite things are reading books and discussing them with other readers.

- Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
- Two Sessions: April 7 & May 19

**Memoirs** .............................................Sp5

These words have all been said about writing memoirs: “I’ve been thinking about it”; “I’ve been meaning to”; “How do I start?”; “My kids don’t care” and even “Thanks for encouraging me”. Many have found this class valuable as a perfect vehicle for springing into action on a rewarding project.

- Reading, Writing
- **Optional text:** *The Heart and Craft of Lifestory Writing: How to Transform Memories into Meaningful Stories*, by Lippincott, S.M. • ISBN: 9780979299803 • Available online $16.95 or less

**Carol Samuel**, beginning her 12th year as Memoirs class course leader, leads a non-critical, welcoming class. A retired obstetrical nurse, she believes there is much convincing evidence today about the value of writing memoirs.

- Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
- Ten Sessions: April 7 – June 16

**German Expressionists** .................................Sp6

[NEW COURSE] German Expressionism is an artistic style of the early 20th century. The movement is understood as a reaction against impressionism, realism, and naturalism. Two centers were formed: DIE BRÜCKE and DER BLAUE REITER. We will discuss artists from both groups.

- Audio/Visual, Lecture

**Gisela Balents** is a long-time Osher member and has taught art courses in the past.

- Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
- Five Sessions: April 7 – May 5
The Ascent of Man .................. Sp7

[NEW COURSE] A series of 13 programs, made for television by the BBC and Time-Life films, and based on the book The Ascent of Man by Dr. Jacob Bronowski, will be viewed and discussed in class. Each DVD (52 mins.) is based on a specific chapter of the book, which class members will be encouraged to read before class. The focus is on the evolution of human cultures, from Homo Erectus with the use of fire, to 1973 when the book was published. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Required Text: The Ascent of Man, by Dr. Jacob Bronowski • ISBN: 9781849901154 • Available for $17.95 (paperback)

Anthropology, archaeology, history, and science have long been high on Kathy Hayes’s list of interests as topics for study. She believe this series is a beautiful combination of all four topics and, as narrated by Dr. Bronowski himself, it is captivating!

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 7 – June 16

Express Yourself in Writing .................. Sp8

Use your imagination to write short stories on subjects suggested by the course leader, and enjoy the opportunity to write stories that you have mentally composed over the years. To assist in improving your skills, a gentle and positive critique of your writing will be included in the class. Outside-of-class writing is expected. Discussion, Writing

Pat Edelman is an avid reader and writer, and enjoys encouraging others to write. Her work as a librarian has given her an appreciation of books and of the talent required to write them.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 7 – June 16

Neo-Noir Films ............................ Sp9

[NEW COURSE] We will look at modern films that have noir style elements and themes, but tend to be more cynical. Films may include Body Heat, Chinatown, L.A. Confidential, and Cutter’s Way. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Mary Ann Satter has a master’s degree in English from the University of Rochester and is a recently retired English teacher. She has studied and taught film for almost five decades.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 7 – June 16

Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, and More.......... Sp10

[NEW CONTENT] We will compare and contrast the three composers, their music, their place in the era, and their legacies. We will listen to Great Courses lectures about specific pieces, view other video materials, and study their lives and times. We also will look at how each composer influenced the development of musical tradition. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Required Text: The Ascent of Man, by Dr. Jacob Bronowski • ISBN: 9781849901154 • Available for $17.95 (paperback)

Retired professor Beth Vanfossen has led many courses at Osher in the social sciences. She now pursues her lifelong interest in music by focusing on the music and times of three of the most important historic composers of Western culture.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 16

French Conversation and Composition 1 .... Sp11

This course is an introduction to spoken and written French and to select aspects of francophone culture. It is intended for those with little or no previous experience with French. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Peer Group Seminar, Reading, Writing

Roz Rubin is a lifelong language learner who enjoys sharing the passion and the rich diversity of the francophone world.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 16

The Brothers Karamazov and Notes from Underground by Fyodor Dostoevsky ....... Sp12

[NEW CONTENT] Continuing from last term, the class will finish reading and discussing The Brothers Karamazov and then read Notes from Underground by Dostoevsky. Notes from Underground is considered the first existential novel written. There will be much discussion with a dose of angst thrown in for good existential measure. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading


Geoff Fitch helped lead a course reading the works of Jean Paul Sartre and Albert Camus including discussions on Existentialism and its history. He enjoys reading books that ask about life’s difficult questions including the author’s conclusions.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Four Sessions: April 8, 15, 29 & May 6 (no class April 22)
DNA and Genetics

[NEW COURSE] The goal of this course is to give you a basic understanding of the structure and chemical composition of DNA. DNA is the only molecule that can produce an exact copy of itself (replication) and this process will be explained. The use of DNA in CSI work and parental determination will be covered. Other issues discussed in the course will be cancer-DNA relationship and genetic testing. The concept of a “Gene” and protein synthesis will also be topics covered as part of this course. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Stan Ertei is a retired science teacher who enjoys learning and trying new experiences. His other interests are biking, skiing, and baking bread.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Five Sessions: April 8 – May 6

The Singing Revolution: How Estonia Bloodlessly Broke From the Soviet Union

[NEW COURSE] This course will relate how “David” (the Baltic state Estonia) broke away from “Goliath” (the Soviet Union) by using a national singing festival to preserve its national identity, rally citizens at crucial moments, and fulfill the eternal quest for freedom.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Mike O’Neal has helped facilitate several courses at Osher. He has a lifelong interest in historical events. His co-presenters are John Cedarleaf, Nancy Dubner, and Kathy Bentley.

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Five Sessions: May 13 – June 10

Irish Literature

[NEW CONTENT] Pensiveness, levity, musing, caprice, and crotchets are encouraged if not ardously supported. Irish cultural video materials will be included in class. Enjoy Irish culinary delights. Participation includes reading and discussion of prose and poetry by authors such as James Joyce, Kate O’Brien, Earan Boland and Agus Teaglaim Lugh.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading

Jack L. Callaghan endeavors to continue the advancing of the Irish culture and literature at the RIT Athenaeum/Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Tuesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10

Flickstory: Hollywood Goes to War

[NEW CONTENT] The five award-winning WWII films that we will screen this term will provide an overview of some of the key personalities, issues, and challenges of the war. Topics covered will include the German Battleship Bismarck, Ike, D-Day, the Tuskegee Airmen, the Battle of Midway, and the Manhattan (Atoms Bomb) Project. Emphasis of these films is on the cerebral rather than gore. Film summaries available from rvukosic@yahoo.com. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Bob Vukosic, Bob Getz, Jack Kowiak, and Chuck Sparnecht are experienced course leaders who enjoy researching topics that have significant impact on our lives and sharing their findings with other Osher members. Each leader will host a film.

Tuesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10

Osher Annual Meeting, 2013
Good Golly! It’s Bolly! .......................................... Sp22

[NEW CONTENT] There are so many entertaining movies that allow us to explore the culture of India and the interwoven dynamics between culture, reality, fantasy, and what we think we understand. Movies are chosen for industry breakthroughs, social commentary, genre, star power, or just plain entertainment. Come experience the joy of Bollywood!

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Note: Traditionally, the class has visited a local Indian restaurant to further the cultural experience. Participation is optional. Price range is $10 to $15.

What began as pure fascination with an eye-catching backdrop to an Indian meal has become Nita Genova’s journey in trying to understand a rich, diverse culture through India’s regional film industries.

Tuesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10

The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica ... Sp21

This broad, foundational, visually and musically rich course has again been enhanced and expanded with the addition of new content, including rare photos, maps, music, and other images and graphics. The course will examine the rich cultures of ancient Mesoamerica over three millennia including Olmec, Teotihuacano, Toltec, Maya, and Aztec/Mexica societies. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading


After a career teaching literature and linguistics at SUNY Oswego, David Hill has offered several courses on language and literature at Osher, recently concentrating on poems.

Tuesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Five Sessions: April 8 – May 6

Great Decisions: The US and World Affairs ................. Sp23

What are the major issues of US Foreign Policy in 2014 and how do policy makers make choices to resolve conflicts? We will read and discuss eight global challenges identified by the Foreign Policy Association, including national defense, Israel, Turkey, China, US trade policy, energy, North Africa, and climate change. Debate and discussion precede and follow an accompanying DVD. The Great Decisions 2014 briefing book is required and must be purchased to register for the class. Class Limit 30

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Required Text: Great Decisions 2014 • Reserved copies available at RIT Barnes & Noble $22.50

Alan Shank, emeritus professor of political science, has presented a fall Osher course on presidential leadership and a spring course on Great Decisions for several years.

Tuesday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10

Bill McLane retired after a career as a Marine Corps officer, journalist, college teacher, and educational psychologist. He has participated in archaeological research at several Mesoamerican sites, including Teotihuacan, Chichen Itza, and Tulum through Museo Nacional de Antropolgia, Mexico City, and The University of Pennsylvania.

Tuesday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10

Roz Rubin is a lifelong language learner who enjoys sharing the passion and the rich diversity of the francophone world.

Tuesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10
**Poetic Visions (session I) Sp25**

This course is also offered on Thursday at 1:30.

Using a seminar format, we will explore aspects of famous poems and share poems we have written and enjoyed. Come prepared to have some fun with poetry. **Class Limit 18 Discussion, Lecture, Workshop, Writing**

Twice nominated for the Pushcart Prize, **Gary Lehmann**’s poetry has been published all over the world. His five poetry books include *Public Lives and Private Secrets* and his most recent publication *Snapshots* [2012].

Tuesday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10

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**How to Listen to and Understand Great Music Sp26**

[NEW COURSE] Based on the lectures of music historian Dr. Robert Greenberg, this course will survey the history of Western concert music over four terms. This term will begin with plainchant and end in the Baroque. We will study how music evolves, we will learn how to listen, and we will supplement the lectures with additional music and materials from all the arts. **Audio/Visual, Lecture**

**Eric Birken** and **Victor Poleshuck** are retired physicians with a love of “classical” music and longstanding, if informal, study of music composition and performance.

Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11

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**The New Yorker Magazine Discussion Group Sp24**

Current events, literature, film, humor, short stories, poems, interesting people, etc. etc. etc. and of course cartoons… The New Yorker magazine provides a wonderful selection of articles for our weekly discussions. Participants read only as much of each issue as they wish ahead of time. We then discuss most of the articles, some of the cartoons, and even occasionally an ad! The first session will review the April 1st issue. As magazine subscriptions can arrive in the mail up to one week late, this gives you time to read the issue, or you can read on your tablet. **Class Limit 16 Discussion, Reading Materials: Subscription to The New Yorker, either paper or electronic version**

**Joan Dupont** enjoys the additional perspectives that The New Yorker brings. **Steve Levinson** focuses his time being a partner in a photography gallery and board volunteer work.

Tuesday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 8 – June 10

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**The Lesser Knowns: 20th Century Artists in the Shadows Sp27**

[NEW COURSE] This course will highlight artists and artistic movements that got lost in the glare of the fame and notoriety surrounding their better known contemporaries. Their works are alternately beautiful, provocative, stimulating, even disturbing. Get to know the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, the Nabis, The Futurists, Secessionists, and others. **Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture**

**Rose Welch** taught art for 30+ years in local school districts. She continues her own personal development in painting and the study of craft media.

Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Five Sessions: April 9 – May 7

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**Nationalism, World War I, and the Peace to End All Peace Sp28**

[NEW COURSE] WWI followed a long period of peace among the Great Powers of Europe. This course explores the growth of competitive nationalism that led to the war and follows through the disastrous Versailles Treaty and partition of the Ottoman Empire that led to WWII and conflicts that continue to this day. **Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture**

**Richard Mallory** has an interest in the history of ideas with particular emphasis on how artistic and musical expression reflects political and cultural developments in societies.

Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Five Sessions: April 9 – May 7
How to Have a Meaningful Relationship with a Painting ....................... Sp29
When it comes to art, you may know what you like but do you know why you like it? This course is designed to give seasoned art lovers and neophytes an understanding of the structure and components that make an art experience memorable. Learn to describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate works of art using the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. This course was previously offered in the fall. Class Limit 42. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Rose Welch taught art for 30+ years in local school districts. She continues her personal development through painting and the study of craft media.

Wednesday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Five Sessions: May 14 – June 11

Contemporary Events ....................... Sp30
If the news of the day interests you, or leaves you with questions or concerns, join with others to explore issues affecting our lives. While the course leader will act as facilitator, members will suggest the day’s topics and should bring to class supporting information from any form of media. Discussion

After June Clase dropped out of college, she explored beachcombing before returning to finish college. As a retired college professor, she tries to be an informed citizen.

Wednesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11

Issues of the Civil War ....................... Sp31
[NY COURSE] This will not be a course about the “bullets and blood” of the Civil War (i.e., the battles and campaigns) but about issues relating to the war. Topics such as: could the South have won and what would the effect of that victory have been; medical care; women who fought in the war; camp life, etc. will be dealt with. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

In the past, Chuck Sparnecht has taught Civil War courses at St. John Fisher and Osher. He always enjoys teaching this topic and learns more about it each time he does.

Wednesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11

Shakespeare’s Coriolanus ....................... Sp32
Shakespeare’s The Tragedy of Coriolanus is set in the early history of the Roman republic. The common people of Rome are in conflict with their military leader, who loves the state of Rome but hates catering to the demands of its citizens. Required Text: A good copy of Shakespeare’s play Coriolanus, preferably with good notes. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading, Other (Student performance whenever possible)

Harvey Granite has taught Shakespeare’s plays at the RIT Athenaeum, now the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT, since its birth. He has been a teacher for more than 60 years.

Wednesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11

The Permanent Jihad .......................... Sp33
Why are many moderate Muslims disenchanted with the West? On what grounds do radical Islamists justify their perceived enemies? We will explore these questions by studying the Quran, the Shia-Sunni conflict, al Qaeda, and the impact of the Crusades, World War I, and American foreign policy. This course was previously offered last fall. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Bob Getz is a retired political science professor from SUNY Brockport and a veteran course leader.

Wednesday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11
Seminar in Medical Ethics ..................Sp34
This is a repeat of a course offered in the past. After defining morals and ethics, the principles of medical ethics will be presented, and an algorithm for problem-solving will be introduced. Case-based discussions will explore issues in Patient-Physician Relations, Reproductive Medicine (including abortion and assisted reproduction), Individual Autonomy, Justice, Pregnancy, End-of-Life Matters, and Cutting Edge Issues (including genetics, cloning, and stem cell research).
Class Limit 25. Discussion
Materials: None required, but for those who wish to do reading: Principles of Biomedical Ethics, by Beauchamp and Childress (5th, 6th, or 7th edition) • Available at Amazon for less than $5 (used, 5th edition)

Victor Poleshuck is clinical professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology, University of Rochester School of Medicine and former chair of the Ethics Committee and chair of the Ethics Consultation Service, Rochester General Hospital.

Wednesday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11

Sherlock Holmes in the Movies and on TV....Sp35
[NEW CONTENT] In this course we will watch and discuss well-known, and some little-known, movies and TV programs featuring Sherlock Holmes. We will start with the 1922 movie, Sherlock Holmes, featuring John Barrymore and end with the current BBC TV program, Sherlock, featuring Benedict Cumberbatch. In between we will watch Basil Rathbone, Arthur Wontner, Peter Cushing, and others.
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading
Recommended Text: Any version of The Complete Stories of Sherlock Holmes, by Arthur Conan Doyle • Available at Amazon $15, at most libraries, and online

Lewis Neisner has been leading Sherlock Holmes courses since joining Osher in 2007. He has been a Sherlockian for over 60 years, headed the Sherlockian society, The Six Napoleons, in Baltimore, and founded Rochester Row, a local society.

Wednesday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11

Understanding the Human Brain.............Sp36
[NEW CONTENT] This course is about the structure and function of our brain. In this session, memory, creativity, lateralization of function, and brain nutrition will be discussed.
Audio/Visual, Lecture

Alex Marcus is a retired physician who practiced neurology and psychiatry.

Wednesday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Ten Sessions: April 9 – June 11

Thursday:

The Adirondacks:
New York's Great Wilderness ...............Sp37
[NEW COURSE] The largest park outside of Alaska is New York’s Adirondack Park. In this course we will investigate its long geology, natural history, and human history. We will discuss how the park was created in 1892, the problems that persist today preserving the wilderness pristine, and meeting the needs of the local inhabitants.
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Tim McDonnell has been a member of Osher at RIT since 2005. He has led many courses on a variety of topics: astronomy, photography, geography, US history, and geology. Tim is the coordinator of the New York Geographic Alliance and an adjunct at Monroe Community College. He has also made many talks for Osher’s Speakers Bureau.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 am
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

Independence Day
by Richard Ford (session I) ......................Sp38
[NEW CONTENT] An automobile trip over a Fourth of July weekend with his emotionally fragile 15-year-old son is the setting for this pastoral meditation by a 44-year-old man attempting to assess his life’s meaning. In 1996 Independence Day won both the Pulitzer Prize and the Pen/ Faulkner Award for Fiction. Discussion, Reading
Required Text: Independence Day, by Richard Ford • ISBN-10: 0679735186 • Available at Amazon (new and used) Note: This course is repeated in the afternoon.

Francia Roe has a master’s degree in English from the University of Rochester and taught Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition for 28 years.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 am
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

Spanish Conversation and Composition 2...Sp39
This course is primarily a conversation course for those who have some background in Spanish. The emphasis is on speaking as well as reading and writing, encouraging and enabling participants to use Spanish meaningfully and creatively in an exchange of ideas and opinions.
Class Limit 20 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Peer Group Seminar, Reading, Writing

Roz Rubin is a lifelong language learner who enjoys sharing the passion and the rich diversity of the Hispanic world.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 am
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12
You Be the Critic... a film discussion group .........................Sp40
CARRYING ON THE TRADITION OF LONGTIME GROUP LEADER JOAN HART, THE CLASS WILL VIEW AND THEN DISCUSS ONE OR TWO CURRENT MOVIES EACH WEEK. MEMBERS WILL SEE THE MOVIES INDEPENDENTLY AND PERSONALLY RATE THEM. EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE AND, WITH A VARIETY OF OPINIONS, LIVELY DISCUSSION IS GUARANTEED.

Class Limit 30 Audio/Visual, Discussion

Burt Freedman is a retired pharmacist. His interests include theater, reading, and spending time with his grandchildren.

Bea Slezewski is a retired public relations professional with a great love for reading and movies.

Thursday: 9:30 – 11:30 am
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

Bel Canto Opera ..............................Sp41
[NEW COURSE] Bel Canto means beautiful singing in Italian and this style of opera from the early 19th Century continues to be very popular with audiences today. We will watch L’Elisir d’Amore, Lucia Di Lammermoor, and Anna Bolena by Donizetti, I Puritani by Bellini; and Il Barbere Di Siviglia by Rossini. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Richard Mallory has an interest in the history of ideas with particular emphasis on how artistic and musical expression reflects political and cultural developments in societies.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

Crazy Brave: A Memoir by Joy Harjo ..........Sp42
[NEW COURSE] In this transcendent memoir, grounded in tribal myth and ancestry, music and poetry, Joy Harjo (Muskogee Creek), one of our leading Native American voices, details her journey to becoming a poet. Narrating the complexities of betrayal and love, Crazy Brave is a memoir about family and the breaking apart necessary in finding a voice. Harjo’s tale of a hardscrabble youth, young adulthood, and transformation into an award-winning poet and musician is haunting, unique, and visionary.

Discussion, Lecture, Reading


Sheryl de Jonge-Loavenbruck was formerly head of Native American Studies at the Northern Teachers College in Groningen, the Netherlands. Since her return to the US, she has taught at various colleges including SUNY Brockport, where she taught international and Native American literature for a number of years. She is now a full-time writer and lives in Holley, NY. She hopes to share with you some of her respect and reverence for our Native Peoples.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

A History of Jazz Guitar ..................Sp43
[NEW CONTENT] This course will survey the historical development of jazz guitar. The focus will be on the major players with many recorded examples. We will begin with the jazz guitar pioneers Lonnie Johnson and Eddie Lang in the 1920s and continue through today’s innovative guitarists such as Bill Frisell and John Scofield.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Peter Luce enjoys learning more about jazz history by leading courses at both Osher and the Chautauqua Institution. In addition to jazz, Peter enjoys art, hiking, biking, photography, and travel.

Al Mathias, a jazz and classical guitarist, will demonstrate jazz guitar styles and techniques.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

Independence Day by Richard Ford (session II) ..................Sp44

See Sp38 for description and course leader information

Note: This course is a repeat of the morning course. Register for either the morning or afternoon course.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

Poetic Visions (session II)......................Sp45

See Sp25 for description and course leader information

Note: This course is a repeat of the Tuesday course. Register for either the Tuesday or Thursday course.

Thursday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Ten Sessions: April 10 – June 12

RIT President Dr. Destler at an Osher Arts & Lectures Event
Friday

Spring 2014 Course Schedule

The Little Prince: A Study of the Human Condition ...............Sp46

[NEW COURSE] We will read (in English) and discuss Antoine de Saint-Exupery’s *The Little Prince*, drawing on our own life experiences and backgrounds. We also will listen to music and watch some pertinent videos. **Class Limit 20**

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Peer Group Seminar, Reading, Writing

**Required Text:** *The Little Prince*, by Antoine de Saint-Exupery • ISBN: 9780156012195

Roz Rubin has explored and taught the countless meanings and interpretations of this classic in French, Spanish, and now once again, in English.

Friday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Ten Sessions: April 11 – June 13

A History of Japan .........................................Sp47

This course chronicles the history of Japan from its earliest inhabitants 20,000 years ago, to the opening of Japan to the West in 1854 when the United States sent Black Ships to demand the right to trade with Japan. Over the centuries, a distinct Japanese civilization evolved. Emperors and shoguns, feuding samurai, peasants, statesmen, and shoguns, feudalism and the samurai, temples, inventions, and works of art have played their part in the history of Japan. From ancient times to the past to tell us what Japanese life was like. **Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture**

After a 35-year career in clinical laboratory science, Marie Levin now studies history. She has led courses on the history of Mesopotamia, China, Egypt, Greece, Rome, Japan, the Vikings and Russia.

Friday: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Five Sessions: April 11 – May 9

History of Religion .......................................Sp48

[NEW CONTENT] The History of Religion is a continuation of the previous series of classes taught by the instructor with completely new content and material. This class will examine various topics in the history of religions. Topics will cover time periods ranging from prehistoric to modern times. We will travel around the globe examining aspects of various major religions, as well as some ancient and more obscure religions. **Audio/Visual, Lecture**

Jack Kowiak has taught three previous classes at Osher on the topic of world religions. He strives to promote a class atmosphere that is nonjudgmental and where people have fun learning.

Friday: 11:15 am – 1:15 pm
Five Sessions: April 11 – May 9

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CANCELED
Beyond learning... is leading
Courses at Osher are led by members. Some have extensive experience in the topic they like to lead and others are just curious enough about something that they go out and research it so they can lead a course. Contact us – we’ll be happy to tell you more about leading at Osher.

“I love leading courses here. It’s like I died and went to heaven. When you’re teaching here at Osher, you’re teaching people who are really hungry to learn.”

Visit our web site! osher.rit.edu

There are a million-and-one reasons why you belong where curious minds gather; discover your place at Osher.

Which membership suits your needs?
We have varying levels of membership to fit members’ individual circumstances. You can begin your membership at the start of any of our three terms: Fall (September), Winter (January) and Spring/Summer (April).

Full Membership
A Full Membership entitles you to participate in all activities, and offers the opportunity to join the RIT community. Enjoy unlimited courses at Osher, participation in social activities, the Pfaudler Enrichment Series, travel and tour programs, Summer Seminar and Intersession programs, and an RIT Student ID card. You are also entitled to “listen in” on selected RIT liberal arts courses. A number of partial scholarships are available. Scholarships are made possible through a grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation. Please contact the Program Administrator for an application.
The annual fee is $285 per person.

Supporting Membership
Unable to participate in courses but interested in our other activities? Supporting Membership is for you. Participate in all social events, Pfaudler Enrichment Series, Summer Seminar and Intersession programs and travel and tour programs. You may also invite a guest to one of these activities.
The annual fee is $140.

Trial Membership
Available to first-time members only, Trial Membership offers another way to “try out Osher.” Enjoy all the privileges of Full Membership for one term (Fall, Winter, or Spring/Summer) excluding the RIT Student ID card and audiology services. The fee is $150 per person. You may convert your Trial Membership into Full Membership by paying an additional $135 at the end of your trial term, thereby adding the subsequent two terms.

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To join. ① you must be 50 or older ② you must have an interest in lifelong learning. You’ll find our membership/course registration form and membership profile on the next two pages. Fill them out and return them to us by or go to the website and click on the Membership box to join. Questions? Call us at 585-292-8989 or email us at osher.info@rit.edu.
Membership/Renewal & Course Registration Form

Please fill in the information below and send to Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT, 50 Fairwood Dr., Suite 100, Rochester, NY 14623

☐ Full Membership ($285) ☐ Trial Membership ($150) ☐ “Trial-to-Full” Membership ($135) ☐ Supporting Membership ($140)

Name: last first preferred (nickname) phone number e-mail

street city state zip

In case of an emergency or illness call name/relationship phone number

physician phone number

I agree to abide by the policies and procedures of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT signature: date

Payment for Membership or Renewal

☐ Pay by credit card (circle one) ☐ Pay by check: Please make check payable to Osher at RIT

person’s name as printed on credit card total payment expiration date security code (found on back of card)

signature

We welcome additional tax deductible contributions to the Operating Budget, Special Projects Fund or the Legacy Endowment Fund. Please include a separate check payable to Osher at RIT, indicating fund designation.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT Refund Policy: The membership fee is generally nonrefundable. The Osher Treasurer, in consultation with the Chair of Council, may consider a refund request for individual circumstances. For administrative purposes, a request for refund must be made in writing. A processing fee may be charged.

Course Registration

course # course title course # course title

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT reserves the right to cancel courses because of low registration, last-minute unavailability of course leaders, or other unavoidable circumstances. Members will be notified immediately of such cancellations so they may select an alternative. Written confirmation will not be sent. You may consider yourself registered in your selected course(s) unless you are notified otherwise. We invite our members to register for as many classes as they wish, but for planning purposes, we ask you to register only for the classes you intend to make a consistent good-faith effort to attend.

Note: Some courses require the purchase of books or materials. Registration forms are processed starting March 18, 2014.

A number of partial scholarships are available. Please contact the Program Administrator for an application.

We’d like to know more about you! Please complete the Member Profile on the other side.
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT Member Profile

We ask each member to provide us with information about him/herself. This information is kept strictly private and is used to help us meet your membership expectations. By knowing a little about you we are able to choose courses to your liking, fill committees with knowledgeable members, plan social events, and form special-interest groups by assisting members who wish to search out others with similar interests. Please take a few minutes to provide us with some information about yourself.

Please indicate your life experiences. (Check all that apply)

- Administration
- Business
- Education
- Engineering
- Health Services/Social Work
- Homemaking
- Journalism
- Law
- Marketing
- Medicine
- Military
- Ministry
- Self-Employed
- Science/Mathematics
- Volunteer Work
- Other

Please indicate course areas that are of interest to you. (Check all that apply)

- Art
- Computers
- Current Events
- Dance
- Health Services/Social Work
- Philosophy
- Religion
- Social Sciences
- Speech
- Sports
- Writing
- Other

Do you have any ideas for courses you would like to teach or like to see taught? Please describe the course(s) and indicate whether you would like to pursue this with a member of the Course Offerings Committee.

Volunteering at Osher As a member-oriented organization, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT encourages active participation. Service is strictly voluntary but greatly appreciated. Which activities might be of interest to you? (Check all that apply)

- Arts & Lectures
- Budget
- Catalog
- Computers
- Course Leader
- Course Offerings Committee
- Finance
- Marketing
- Member Relations
- Osher Newsletter
- Pfaudler Lecture Series
- Social
- Summer Seminar
- Technology
- Travel/Tour

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- Entered into ProClass
- Entered into Spreadsheet

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DATE: 

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### Course Selections — Spring 2014 Worksheet

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### Leadership:
**Osher Council 2013 – 2014**

- **Executive Committee**
  - Nita Genova
    - Chair
  - Debbie Huff
    - Vice-Chair, Program
  - Carolyn Vacanti
    - Vice-Chair, Marketing
  - Jim Roddy
    - Vice-Chair, Participation
  - Sandy Smith
    - Treasurer
  - Tom Low
    - Acting Secretary

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  - Osher News and Events
    - Laura Yellin
  - Intersession
    - Terri Hurley
  - Pfaudler
    - Pfaudler
  - Lewis Neisner
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  - Peter Luce
    - Legacy Fund
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  - Mary Barrett
    - New Member Development
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    - Speakers Program/Outreach
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    - Social
  - Debbie Lazor
    - Summer Seminar
  - Sharon Garelick
  - Elaine Schroeder
    - Survey
  - Beth Vanfossen
    - Technology
  - Joel Elias
    - Ed Lebowitz
  - Travel
    - Open Position
  - Wizards
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      - Vice President, Government & Community Relations, RIT
  - Mary Bistovich
    - Program Administrator
  - Sara Connor
    - Program Coordinator
  - Julie Magnuson
    - Program Assistant

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**How to find us ~**

- **Osher 50 Fairwood Dr. Suite 100**
  - The Athenaeum Building
  - 50 Fairwood Dr. Suite 100.
  - Rochester, New York 14623
  - Phone: (585) 292-8989
  - Email: osher.info@rit.edu
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Spring Courses at a glance

**Arts**
- German Expressionists
- The History of Modern Art, Part III
- How to Have a Meaningful Relationship with a Painting
- The Lesser Knowns: 20th C. Artists in the Shadows

**Film**
- Flickstory: Hollywood Goes to War
- Good Golly! It’s Bolly!
- Neo-Noir Films
- Sherlock Holmes in the Movies and on TV
- You Be the Critic... a film discussion group

**History, Current Events, & Government**
- The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica
- Contemporary Events
- Current Events
- Great Decisions: The US and World Affairs
- A History of Japan
- Issues of the Civil War
- Nationalism, World War I, and the Peace to End All Peace
- The New Yorker Magazine Discussion Group
- The Singing Revolution: How Estonia Bloodlessly Broke from the Soviet Union

**Literature**
- Athenaeum Book Club
- The Brothers Karamazov and Notes from Underground
- Crazy Brave: A Memoir by Joy Harjo
- Independence Day by Richard Ford
- Irish Literature
- The Little Prince: A Study of the Human Condition
- Shakespeare’s Coriolanus
- Shorter Fiction of Melville

**Music**
- Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, and More
- Bel Canto Opera
- A History of Jazz Guitar
- How to Listen to and Understand Great Music

**Religion**
- History of Religion
- The Permanent Jihad

**Science & Technology**
- The Adirondacks: New York’s Great Wilderness
- The Ascent of Man
- DNA and Genetics
- Going to the Dogs: Nature of Canine Form and Function
- Going With the Dogs: Nurture in the Selection and Developmental Training of Dogs
- Mayan Engineering
- Seminar in Medical Ethics
- Understanding the Human Brain

**Writing**
- Express Yourself in Writing
- Memoirs
- Poetic Visions